



Illinois Food Retailers Association

Programs & Services *for members*

Illinois Food Retailers Association Mission Statement

The Illinois Food Retailers Association is a non-profit trade association dedicated to the growth and profitability of locally owned and owner-operated retail food stores and the suppliers that service them. For each of its members, IFRA membership strengthens the link to the food industry at-large and provides industry-specific programs, as well as essential and timely information about general industry topics and legislative and regulatory issues that affect their business.



● Government Relations

Government Relations is one of the most important services offered to members. The legislative alliances of Illinois Food Retailers Association and the Illinois Retail Merchants Association makes the grocery industry one of the most respected lobbying entities in the state before legislative and regulatory agencies.

The Illinois Food Distribution Political Action Committee is very active in both fund raising and fund distribution to support statewide campaigns of individuals responsive to the needs of the membership.

● Industry Relations

The IFRA Service Corporation manages the day-to-day activities of the Grocery Merchandising Association, an association of grocery manufacturers, brokers and other companies supporting our industry through marketing, advertising and distribution. The GMA mission encourages dialogue with all members of the trade on current and future trends by providing programs and events designed to bring the industry together.

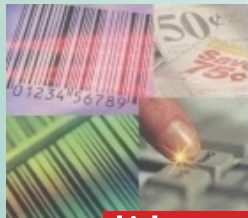
● Education Programs

IFRA communicates with members via its *Monthly Report*, electronic weekly reports, periodic action alert notices, and by email/broadcast faxes. These communication vehicles contain valuable information on association events, legislative issues and educational materials. IFRA also sponsors educational programs of importance and of interest to members at the Annual Conference and throughout the year as the need and interest arise.



● Food Service Sanitation Manager Certification Food Handler – Online Training

IFRA provides a complete listing of Food Service Sanitation Manager Certification classes, offering classes that are held throughout the State, as well as online programs for Manager Certification. Additionally, IFRA offers an online Food Handler training and assessment program for all employees who work with unpackaged food, food equipment or utensils or food contact surfaces, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health.



● Coupon Redemption

For over 40 years, the Illinois Food Retailers Association Service Corporation has served the coupon redemption needs of Illinois retailers of all sizes. The IFRASC program ensures fast and accurate coupon processing and provides the highest competitive return possible on your coupon submissions.

highest competitive return possible on coupons





● Scholarship Program

The IFRA Education Foundation assists eligible students affiliated with IFRA member companies with the cost of college education through the scholarship program. Part-time employees that are full-time students and children of full-time employees are eligible for scholarships. Members can also establish their own scholarship program utilizing the Foundation's administration.

● Labor Relations

The Illinois Food Retailers Association represents authorizing members for the purpose of collective bargaining with the United Food and Commercial Workers Union. The labor program also provides limited general telephone consultation on labor-related issues without charge to members.

● Energy Program

For the past 15 years, the Illinois Food Retailers Association has partnered with the Illinois Retail Merchants Association in offering electricity savings programs and assistance with decisions pertaining to energy procurement. Member companies operating in the ComEd and Ameren utility territories have saved substantial sums of money in reduced energy costs by participating in the IRMA-IFRA Group Affinity Program.



● Group Insurance – Benefits Consulting

IFRA Service Corporation has endorsed group programs through Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services for property casualty and workers compensation insurance. Employee health and group term life insurance programs through Gallagher Benefit Services are also available — all tailored to meet participating members' needs at the lowest possible rates. 401K Retirement Plan consultation is also available through Gallagher Retirement Services.

● Credit Card Processing Program

IFRA offers a complete credit and debit card processing program with substantially reduced rates per transaction for all Visa/MasterCard, Amex/Discover, Pin debit, EBT, and gift cards through World Pay. Save on your card processing fees today.

● Data Security Program

IFRA has partnered with Trustwave to help retail members achieve and maintain PCI compliance and other data security measures. A tiered level of services is available, depending on your data security needs.

● Forms and Publications

The IFRA Service Corporation provides an alternative source for administrative and general forms and publications at nominal prices. Inventory includes rain checks, employment application forms, customer gift certificates, WIC labels and many other signs and publications.

● Annual Conference Discounts for Exhibitors and Advertisers

IFRA and the Grocery Merchandising Association host a spectacular gathering of Illinois independent food retailers, manufacturers, wholesalers and suppliers during our Annual Conference and Expo. The two-day Conference first offers a day of fun on the golf course, while the second day features a wide variety of educational seminars and a scaled-down expo floor filled with companies offering the latest in technology, products and services. **Membership includes discounts on expo exhibitor fees and advertising rates in the Annual Conference and Expo Magazine.**



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www.ilfood.org

Illinois Food Retailers Association

For further information on any Association-sponsored program, please call the Association office today.



Application for Associate Membership

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip code: _____

Business Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Primary Contact: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Secondary Contact: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please list any additional memberships on a separate sheet.

**Annual Dues Investment - \$350
Includes a Primary and a Secondary Contact
Additional Memberships - \$25**

Method of Dues Payment: _____ Check Enclosed _____ Credit Card

If by credit card, please circle one: AE Disc MC VISA

Name on Account: _____

Account No: _____ Exp. _____

Account Holder Signature _____

Payments or contributions to the Illinois Food Retailers Association are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Payments may be deducted as a business expense. If in doubt, please consult your tax advisor.

Mail application and membership check to:

ILLINOIS FOOD RETAILERS ASSOCIATION
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